

CLAIMS

1. A method for the pyrometallurgical production of copper
  - a) charging of the converter with copper-containing melt,
  - b) treatment of the melt in such a way that foreign components are converted into a slag, until the melt predominantly consists solely of  $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$ ,
  - c) removal of the slag from the converter,
  - d) blowing of gas into the  $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$ -containing melt in order to establish a largely pure copper melt by removal of sulphur,
  - e) emptying of the converter into a downstream unit, whereby
  - f) gas is also introduced into the respective melt during process steps a), b), c) and e).
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein a gas consisting predominantly of oxygen is introduced into the melt during process step a).
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein a gas consisting predominantly of oxygen is introduced into the melt during process step b).
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein a gas consisting predominantly of oxygen is introduced into the melt during process step d).
5. The method according to claim 1, wherein a gas consisting predominantly of oxygen is introduced into the melt during process step e).

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the gas supplied is at least partially an inert gas at least in the second half of process step e).
7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the introduction of gas takes place via a plurality of gas rinsing elements, which can be charged in a preselectable combination and/or with a preselectable gas pressure and with the same or different gases.
8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the introduction of the gas takes place in such a way that the slag is conveyed selectively in process step c) in the direction of a removal opening.
9. The method according to claim 1, wherein gas is introduced into the melt uninterruptedly during all the process steps.
10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the gas is introduced in a different composition, quantity and/or with different gas pressure during the individual process steps.